



# The Reel News

The Newsletter of the . . .



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 58 Issue 2

February 2018



## PRESIDENTS CAST NET

*Trina Polkey*



Did you know there is a sheepshead card game? It is an Americanized version of a game called Schafkopf that originated in Central Europe in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. After a quick look at the rules I think I'll stick to sheepshead fishing! Yes, it is that time of the year when we eat, drink, think and sleep sheepshead. The El Cheapo is only a month away, taking place this year on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and we are going to need your help to pull it off.

Please watch for us to announce our club clean up day and come out and help. Many hands make light work! We will also need help setting up the tournament site all day Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and we will need plenty of volunteers during the captains meeting Friday evening, and Saturday, the day of the tournament. This is our biggest and primary fundraiser of the year, this is how we keep our club running, how we help support local organizations, and how we can further advance our great fishery. Please come out and help. Juniors, any of this can count



towards volunteer hours, just get one of us to sign off on your sheet.

Our next tournament is the Sheepshead Tune-Up on February 10<sup>th</sup>, be sure to put it on your calendar. This is a three-fish aggregate tournament and big surprise, they must be sheepshead. We always start worrying about the availability of fiddlers this time of year, but never fear! Remember, Captain Kirk Waltz, who held first place for a LONG time in last year's El Cheapo, told us he loves to use small, live or very fresh shrimp. And Captain Vic Tison often uses a quarter of a blue crab for an unmistakable bite... I've tried it, he's right! For complete rules and to register, please visit [www.jaxfish.com](http://www.jaxfish.com).

Our first meeting this month happens to be on February 1<sup>st</sup> and is our annual chili cook off! Bring out your best pot of chili and we'll supply the "fixin's! First place gets \$30 in fish slips, second place gets \$20 in fish slips, and third gets \$10 in fish slips. We will also have our annual swap meet at this meeting since we had to move it. The second meeting will be on February 15<sup>th</sup> and we will have a great guest speaker or seminar planned for you by then.

We look forward to seeing you at our regular meetings, and we hope to see you at our volunteer opportunities. We will be opening the building up around 6:00 each meeting to allow for more time to visit, and we start at 7:00!







Remember to shop at our sponsors and support them as often as you can.

Also remember to pull out your JOSFC Membership card and ask if they give a club discount! They don't all do it, but maybe YOU can get them to give your club a discount for using their card there! PLUS it lets them know we are supporting them as a Club!

The Sponsors are all listed on the back of your Newsletter!



*The Reel News* is published monthly by the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club (JOSFC). All rights reserved.

#### Officers:

President ..... Trina Polkey  
Vice President..... Tony Thompson  
Secretary ..... Lori Morris  
Treasurer ..... Gary Lock

#### Board of Directors & Special Staff:

Tom Darga - Tournament Director  
Cassi Washington - Awards & Events  
Tom Ruggles - Website & Newsletter  
Greg Wallace - Fishing Director  
Terri Breen - Membership  
Sara Carpenter - Media Director  
Cathy Brace - Hospitality Director  
Derek Siegel - Speaker Director  
Capt. Chris Rooney - Advisor to the Board  
Assist. Newsletter Editor / Website ... Bill Breen  
Newsletter & Marine Radio.... Mike Murphy

©Copyright 2018



## Emergency Phone Numbers First for Any Emergency - 911

U.S. Coast Guard, Jacksonville Emergencies  
904-564-7500 Press 1

U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center  
1-800-424-8802

Jacksonville Sheriff's Marine Unit  
904-630-2160

Florida Fish and Wildlife  
1-888-404-3922

Sea Tow  
1-800-473-2869

Tow Boat U.S.  
1-800-391-4869

Now use that thing on top of your shoulders for more than a Hat Rack! Program the above numbers into your Cell Phone so you always have them!



## Membership News

Thank you! Thank you too all all the members who have renewed your JOSFC membership dues on time! It makes my job so much easier.

Welcome to the JOSFC family to the Lauren McCullum, Ricky Hartsfield and Beau Woodard families. Also, congratulations to Gary Lock and Don Merritt for becoming Lifetime Members!

In February, we are implementing our new JOSFC Membership system. As before, you'll be able to sign up online and your information will come into our computer JOSFC membership program. This will make it much easier to get correct spellings of names, correct addresses, and correct emails. I'm very excited and eager to use the new program. If you currently don't receive our JOSFC emails, double check with me at a meeting or send me an email to [ibreen@bellsouth.net](mailto:ibreen@bellsouth.net) to verify what I have entered is correct. If you prefer to pay your JOSFC membership fee in person, that option is still available for you. Each year, you will receive reminder emails to renew your membership.

Our tournament year runs from October 1 through September 30. You may begin paying your dues in October. December 31 is the last day to pay your JOSFC dues to keep fish you have caught Oct.1 through Dec.31 on the JOSFC Tournament Boards.



*This is the season for fishing for Wahoo, so I thought this would be a good time to give you this information.*

**Kingdom** - Animalia

**Phylum** - Chordata

**Class** - Osteichthyes

**Order** - Perciformes

**Family** - Scombridae

**Genus** - Acanthocybium

**Species** - Solandri

**Common Name** - **Wahoo**

I will attempt to tell you everything that science and expert fishermen know about Wahoo except how to actually catch one.

Here are some facts to start with. The Wahoo is a member of the Family - Scombridae, which includes both the Mackerel and Tuna. World wide there is only one "Species" of Wahoo, they are the same fish no matter where you go. Fish tagged in the Gulf have been caught off the Carolina's.

They mature between 1 and 2 years of age, and live an average of 5 to 6 years. They grow quickly from fry 1" long to about 30" in the first year, then they grow at about 1.2" to 1.5" per month. Their max length is about 98" long with the average being 39" to 66".

They are one of the fastest fish in the ocean, with an estimated speed of 60 plus MPH!. (Remember this for later.)

The world rod & reel record, Caught off the Pacific coast of Mexico is 158 pounds 8 oz. The Florida record caught off Marathon in 1960 is 139 pounds.

Wahoo like warm water, with a lower avoidance temperature of 65 degrees F. And a preferred range of 68 to 80 degrees and an upper avoidance temperature of 88 degrees F.

Unlike that of most mackerels, wahoo flesh is white and delightfully flavored. It's still a good idea to remove the dark lateral line from the steaks.

Wahoo are far more structure-oriented than you may think, especially with regard to big fish. The rocky perimeter of the continental shelf off northeast Florida is a prime example. You will catch more fish staying on the ledge than on a good temperature break just a mile further out.

Here is a new finding, depth of presentation is not necessarily the key to catching Wahoo. Far more important, it seems, is speed. About 18 knots to be more specific. Use weights to keep the lures in the water, the fish will sense and see the lure coming and come up to it.

The best bite is at first light, right at daybreak when you can just barely see your lures in the water, until around 9 o'clock. Then it gets good again late in the day, around sunset. It's also good on an afternoon tide change.

Wahoo are rarely alone. They travel in packs along color changes and dropoffs, no matter where you're fishing. If you catch a wahoo on a color change or weedline in 200 to 500 feet of water, circle back around and there's a good chance you'll catch another one.

Finally another great tactic is to shut off your engines and let the fish come to you. Use weights or downriggers to put live baits at 100 to 200 feet, and chum as you drift.

### ***Try this Wahoo, Bananas & Dark Rum***

Prep Time:: Less than 15 minutes

Cook Time: Less than 15 minutes

Cooking Method: Sauted

Meal Type: Entree

Main Fish: Wahoo

Ingredients

- \* 6 wahoo fillets (about 6 oz. each)
- \* 1 tsp. salt
- \* 1/2 tsp. pepper
- \* 4 tbsp. flour
- \* 4 tbsp. unsalted butter (1/4 cup)
- \* 1/4 cup Black rum
- \* 3 large or 6 small bananas - sliced lengthwise
- \* 2 tbsp. minced parsely
- \* orange slices - halved

Directions

Mix the salt and pepper with the flour and dredge the fillets in the mixutre. Shake off excess. Melt the butter in a saute pan and just as it starts to foam, add the fish, cooking both sides until just cooked.

Removed from pan and keep warm. Add the remaining butter to the pan, then the bananas and saute for 2 minutes.

Add the dark rum and ignite. Flambe for 2 minutes or until the flames die down. Pour over the fish. Garnish with banana slices, parsley and halved orange slices.

Serve with boiled rice and steamed vegetables.

## Life Jackets What you should know!

HERE ARE THE LAWS REGARDING THE USE OF LIFE JACKETS, OR ALSO REFERRED TO AS PDF'S. ( PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE. )

HERE IN FLORIDA A CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 6 MUST WEAR A USCG-APPROVED TYPE I, II OR III PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE WHILE ONBOARD A VESSEL UNDER 26 FEET IN LENGTH WHILE THE VESSEL IS UNDERWAY. "UNDERWAY" IS DEFINED AS ANYTIME EXCEPT WHEN THE VESSEL IS ANCHORED, MOORED, MADE FAST TO THE SHORE OR AGROUND.

CHILDREN UNDER 13 YEARS OF AGE ON VESSELS OPERATING ON WATERS OUTSIDE THE GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES OF FLORIDA ( THAT IS BEYOND 3 MILES FROM SHORE. ) MUST WEAR A USCG APPROVED PFD UNLESS THE CHILD IS BELOW DECK OR IN AN ENCLOSED CABIN. NOTE THAT IT DOES NOT SAY 26 FEET IN LENGTH OR LESS FOR THIS ONE!

ALL VESSELS MUST CARRY ONE TYPE I, II, III, IV, OR V USCG-APPROVED PFD FOR EACH PERSON ON BOARD.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS, VESSELS 16 FEET IN LENGTH OR LONGER MUST HAVE ONE TYPE IV USCG-APPROVED PFD ON BOARD AND IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE. TYPE IV IS YOUR THROWABLE.

INFLATABLE LIFE JACKETS ARE AUTHORIZED FOR USE ON RECREATIONAL BOATS BY A PERSON AT LEAST 16 YEARS OF AGE

INFLATABLE PFDs ARE NOT TO BE WORN ON PWCs OR WHILE WATER-SKIING.



### **LIFE JACKET TYPES**



**TYPE I** - 22 LBS MINIMUM BUOYANCY - WILL TURN MOST UNCONSCIOUS WEARERS FACE-UP IN WATER. INTENDED USE - WHEN CRUISING, RACING AND FISHING OFFSHORE , OR WHEN BOATING ALONE, OR IN STORMY CONDITIONS.

**TYPE II** - 15.5 LBS MINIMUM BUOYANCY - WILL TURN SOME UNCONSCIOUS WEARERS FACE-UP IN WATER.

INTENDED USE - INLAND DAY CRUISING, FISHING AND SAILING. GOOD FOR BOATING IN LIGHT CRAFT.

**TYPE II INFLATABLE** - 34 LBS MINIMUM BUOYANCY - NOT GUARANTEED TO TURN UNCONSCIOUS WEARER FACE-UP.

INTENDED USE - FOR SERIOUS INLAND AND NEAR SHORE CRUISING.

**TYPE III** - 15.5 LBS MINIMUM BUOYANCY - NOT DESIGNED TO TURN UNCONSCIOUS PEOPLE FACE UP IN WATER.

INTENDED USE - SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS SAILING REGATTAS, DINGHY RACES, WATER SKIING, FISHING, CANOEING, KAYAKING AND DURING PERSONAL WATERCRAFT OPERATION.

**TYPE III INFLATABLE** - 22.5 LBS MINIMUM BUOYANCY - NOT GUARANTEED TO TURN UNCONSCIOUS WEARER FACE-UP.

INTENDED USE - FOR BOATING INSHORE AND NEAR SHORE AND FOR SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SAILING REGATTAS, DINGHY RACES, CANOEING.

DISADVANTAGES: ONE MANUAL INFLATION MECHANISM ONLY. INFLATABLE PFDs ARE NOT MEANT FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16.

**TYPE IV - THROWABLE DEVICE** - MINIMUM BUOYANCY - RING BOUY = 16.5 LBS, BOAT CUSHION = 18 LBS

INTENDED USE - A TYPE IV IS DESIGNED TO BE THROWN TO AN OVERBOARD VICTIM OR TO SUPPLEMENT THE BUOYANCY OF A PERSON OVERBOARD. IT IS NOT TO BE WORN. A TYPE IV IS NOT FOR UNCONSCIOUS PERSONS, NON-SWIMMERS OR CHILDREN.

**NOTE** - TYPE IV DEVICES MUST BE **IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE** FOR USE. YOU MUST HAVE ONE AT ARM'S LENGTH TO THROW OVER THE SIDE IN AN EMERGENCY.

**TYPE V - SPECIAL USE LIFE JACKETS** - 15.5 TO 22 LBS MINIMUM BUOYANCY FOR ADULT SIZE. NOT GUARANTEED TO TURN AN UNCONSCIOUS WEARER FACE-UP.

INTENDED USE - RESTRICTED TO THE SPECIAL USE FOR WHICH EACH IS DESIGNED, FOR EXAMPLE: SAILBOARD HARNESS, DECK SUIT, PADDLING VEST, COMMERCIAL WHITE WATER VEST OR FLOAT COATS.

**NOTE** - MUST BE WORN WHEN UNDERWAY TO MEET MINIMUM US Coast Guard REQUIREMENTS. SIMPLY HAVING A TYPE V PFD ON BOARD WILL NOT MEET THE USCG CARRIAGE REQUIREMENTS.

**TYPE V - AUTOMATIC INFLATION MODELS** MINIMUM BUOYANCY

22.5 TO 34 LBS. DEPENDING ON STYLE.

INTENDED USE - RESTRICTED TO THE ONE USE FOR WHICH IT IS DESIGNED, EX. BELT PACK, DECK SUIT, FLOAT COAT.

**TYPE V - HYBRID INFLATION JACKETS** - MINIMUM BUOYANCY - HAVE 7.5 LBS. OF BUILT-IN FOAM BUOYANCY AND CAN BE INFLATED TO 22 LBS.

THERE ARE A LOT OF DETAILS YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF TO AVOID A CITATION BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD, TAKE NOTE AND CHECK AGAINST YOUR LIFE JACKETS AND USE!







## This is YOUR Club!

As the title says, the JOSFC is YOUR club, not only mine, or the Boards, it is YOURS!

With that in mind, we really would like to hear from you, the members, just what we can do to make it better, to encourage more participation at the meetings, and or other activities that you would like to see us participate in or do.

The Board might not decide to go along with all your ideas, but they definitely would like to hear from you.

You will find all your Officers and Board members E-mail at our Website under the "About" tab down to the "Officers and Board" tab. You can E-mail any of them or me at any time that a brilliant idea strikes!



## Loud Hailings

Bill Breen  
Newsletter  
Editor



I am looking for PICTURES of club members with local catches, to use in our newsletter. If you have a good photo PLEASE E-mail it or give it to me at a meeting. I will Scan it and return it to you undamaged. Don't forget to include a piece of paper with your name address, and the information on the catch, size or weight, and when. You can even include your numbers where caught, I won't tell anyone else, I promise! ;-) Cross my heart and hope to catch your fish!

Just a reminder, ANYONE and everyone can submit something, a good story, joke, or an embarrassing story about a fellow fisherperson for the Newsletter. Just get your article and or pictures to me by the 18th of the month, to be in the next months newsletter. Just hand me a copy at any meeting, or E-mail it to me at : [breenw@bellsouth.net](mailto:breenw@bellsouth.net)

## THE RACE IS ON FOR THE CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR AND TO WIN A FISHING BOARD

Here is a report from Tom Darga our Tournament Director:

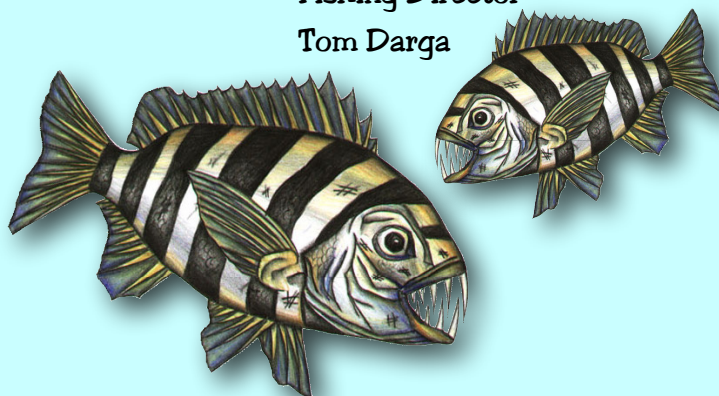
Well the new year has started off cold. Who would of thought that Florida would be in the low 20's. On January 20<sup>th</sup> the club had the Inshore River Tournament. At 6 that morning it was 32 degrees and you could tell the Wahoo guys were out since the parking lot was already half full. Fishing turned out to be slow with sheepshead and black drum the only fish brought to the weigh station. Many anglers had red's but they were undersized with the larger ones hiding and trying to stay warm. Even the croakers stayed home and huddled together. We had 10 boats fish and would have had more but since the ocean was 1 to 3 and cold many of our anglers were out deep high speeding or bottom fishing. Live shrimp and mussels seem to be the bait in river. Our next tournament will be the Sheepshead tune up on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. This is when the Captain's board will become very active. The sheepshead is the only tournament where the captain has the choice of fishing inshore or offshore. After this tournament we begin the run of offshore trolling and bottom fishing. Begin to scout out your spot for the El-Cheapo.

### The Results of the River Tournament.

1. George Hunsinger - 4.7 Sheepshead
2. Gary Locke - 4.4 Black Drum
3. Jack Ogin - 4.3 Sheepshead
4. Brandon Prato - 2.5 Black Drum

Fishing Director

Tom Darga



# Gary Newman

## INSURANCE

Family Owned & Operated

• Boat



• Auto



• Home

67 E. Sailfish Dr. • Atlantic Beach, FL

241-0777

## Last Month was your LAST Printed Newsletter!

The JOSFC will only mail you a newsletter if you E-mail, Call or Text

Bill Breen to tell him you want the printed version.

[breenw@bellsouth.net](mailto:breenw@bellsouth.net) 904-254-2791

Otherwise we will continue to E-mail you a copy as a .pdf file. You should already have a copy of the free Adobe .pdf reader on your computer or you can download it at:

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

Here are some FACTS you can use in your letters to Congress and the Senate.

Both State and Federal.

Commercial fishing averages a total value of \$ 5.4 Billion dollars / year. That is from the Pacific Coast, Alaska, Gulf of Mexico, and Atlantic Coast combined.

5.4 BILLION DOLLARS! That is NOTHING compared to the VALUE of Recreational Fishing!

Recreational fishing had a total value of \$23.4 Billion + Dollars / Year!

That is almost 5 times the value of Commercial fishing!

10.4 million anglers took 68 Million trips in 2014, and they caught 392 Million Fish!

10 Million anglers, 4 million fish . . . .

That means 6 Million anglers got skunked!

Of that 392 million fish caught, 60% of those fish were released! The total harvest was estimated at 155 million fish, weighing 186 million pounds.

For the greater Jacksonville area, That is the Florida Georgia border, to the South City limits of St. Augustine in a loop back around the city of Jacksonville. The economic impact of Saltwater Recreational fishing is OVER \$600 Million dollars EVERY YEAR! Each and every year we bring in over \$600 Million dollars to the local economy of the Jacksonville area! Year after Year after Year!

That is more than the Super Bowl brought in yet the city does not spend much on improving or maintaining the infrastructure that we use.

We are a vital asset to the Jacksonville economy.



In every Newsletter I strongly suggest that you wear your Life Jacket at least while your boat is underway.



Here are some other safety things that you should consider.




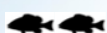




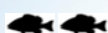
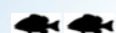

Is your Fire extinguisher current? Do you have a big enough one, or more than one?

How about a "Ditch Bag" is it properly stocked, and sitting out where it is handy?

First aid kit current, plenty of fresh Hydrogen Peroxide to clean wounds?





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
February				1 CLUB MEETING Chili Cook-Off Swap Meet 	2 	3 
			7 	8 	9 	10 Sheepshead Tune-up Tournament 
4 	5 Board Meeting 	6 	14 Valentine Day 	15 Club Meeting 	16 	17 
11 	12 	13 	21 	22 	23 	24 
18 	19 	20 	28 			 EL CHEAPO
25 	26 	27 				



## Coming Events

February 1st - Club Meeting, Annual Chili Cook-Off & Annual Swap Meet.

February 10th - The Sheepshead Tune-Up Tournament.

March 3rd - THE EL CHEAPO!!!



The 18th annual El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament and Fish Fry will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018

*It is ALMOST here!*



For those of you who have never fished this tournament before, welcome to "The World's Largest Sheepshead Tournament"! For those of you who have fished and or worked it before, welcome back! --- and I'm sure you'll find the 18th edition of this tournament the best one yet! I am getting very excited to work it again as it is really a lot of fun! It is also a good way to get to know your fellow members and make some good fishing friends!

## Associate Members

*Academy Sports • Advantage Signs • All Aluminum Concepts • Amelia Island Bait & Tackle • Angie's Sub Shop • Atlantic Coast Marine • Atlantic Engraving & Graphics • Available Angler • Avid Angler • B & M Bait & Tackle • Beach Plaza Auto Care • Best Western Mayport • Boat U. S./Angler • Boathouse Discount Marine • Boatronics • BOCA Bearings • Bonefish Grill • Bowen Upholstery • C & H Lures • Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing • Carolina Skiff • Catchin' A Buzz Fishing • Consignment Boat Sales • Copperhead Metal Arts • Coastal Angler Magazine • Custom Marine Components • DOA Lures • Dames Point Marina • Dandee Foods • Dell Marine • Doherty Brothers Marine Construction • Donovan Heating & Air • Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy • Fish Florida • Fish On • Fishing Connection • Fishing Nosara.com • Five Star Pizza • Florida Sportsman Live • Footcush • Gary Newman Insurance • Gone Fishin' • Great Atlantic Outfitters • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • Hagerty Construction & Roofing • Hardees • Hoo Rag • Hook The Future • Hope Fishing Adventures • Hulihan Territory Irrigation Systems • In River or Ocean • International Ropes • Island Electric of the First Coast • Julington Creek Carpet Care • KC Crave • Knight Electric • Kona Skate Park • Magic Tilt Trailers • Mandarin Ale House • Mike's Taxidermy • Mousa's Auto Interiors & More • Murphy Communications • Nosara Paradise Rentals • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Paradise Resort • Pepsi Bottling Co. • Proctor Ace Hardware • Progressive Insurance • Pure Fishing • Reel Fish Deals • Rick's Bait & Tackle • River Marine • Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service • Safe Harbor Seafood • Salt Life • Salty Charters of Jacksonville • Sea Angler Gear • Sea Dancer Charters • Sea Tow • Singelton's Seafood Shack • Skate Station Funworks • SOC 7 Productions • Southern Propane • Still Just fishing Show • Strike Zone Fishing • Styles Smith Plumbing • Sumo Design Studio • Sun Deli • Sure Set Jigs • SweetWater Brewing • Taylor Concrete Services • T.B.S. Jigs & Charter • The Ice Man • The Outdoors Show • The Spot Tournament • The Waters' Edge Boat Detailing • Towboat US of Jacksonville • Trout River Fish Co. • Vic2Fish & Adventures • West Marine • Wild Adventures • Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc. • Windsor Park Golf Club • Woody Wax • Zaxby's*

## SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS! THEY SUPPORT US AND FISHING!



Jacksonville Offshore  
Sports Fishing Club  
P.O. Box 331185  
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

